

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BUENOS 01896 112243Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /091 W
-----121143Z 001665 /23-12

R 111512Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9523
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY LIMA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 1896

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: SHUM, PINS, PFOR, AR, US, BR, CI, PE
SUBJECT: FURTHER PRESS PLAY ON US-ARGENTINE RELATIONS

REF: BUENOS AIRES 1852

1. BUENOS AIRES PRESS OF MAR 8-9 HIGHLIGHTED TWO ITEMS INDICATIVE OF ARGENTINE POSITION ON BILATERAL RELATIONS IN WAKE OF MILITARY CREDITS INCIDENT: REPORTING ON COMMENTS MADE BY FONMIN GUZZETTI DURING TELEVISED INTERVIEW, AND AN ITALIAN NEWS AGENCY (ANSA) DESPATCH CONCERNING ACTIVITIES OF AMB AJA ESPIL IN WASHINGTON.

2. GUZZETTI'S REMARKS WERE MADE DURING TELEVISED INTERVIEW THAT TOUCHED ON SEVERAL DIPLOMATIC TOPICS. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, FOREIGN MINISTER EMPHASIZED THAT FROM ARGENTINE VIEWPOINT THE CREDITS ISSUE HAD BEEN "TOTALLY CONFINED" AND WOULD NOT IMPINGE ON OTHER FACETS OF BILATERAL RELATIONS. AFTER CHARACTERIZING THE TRADITIONAL PATTERN OF ARGENTINA-US RELATIONS AS "NEITHER EXCELLENT NOR BAD," BUT ALWAYS BASED ON "RECIPROCAL EXCHANGES AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING," GUZZETTI REPORTEDLY SAID: "I IN NO WAY BELIEVE THAT THE MATTER WE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BUENOS 01896 112243Z

ARE DISCUSSING COULD RESULT IN ALTERING THE TRADITIONAL PATTERN."

3. GUZZETTI ALSO REPORTEDLY STATED THAT ARGENTINE WILL BE ABLE TO BUY CERTAIN MATERIALS (COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, AIRPLANE PARTS CITED) THROUGH COMMERCIAL CHANNELS IN THE US. (COMMENT: GUZZETTI'S REMARKS AND THOSE WE HAVE HEARD INFORMALLY FROM OTHER GOA OFFICIALS MAKE IT CLEAR THAT GOA IS NOW TREATING FMS CREDIT ISSUE AS

AN UNFORTUNATE BUT ISOLABLE AND CLOSED INCIDENT.)

4. ANSA DESPATCH, WHICH RECEIVED WIDE CIRCULATION HERE IN FORM OF NONATTRIBUTED REWRITE, SHOWS NO PARTICULAR REGARD FOR FACTS AND CITES NO SOURCES. BASED TO SOME DEGREE ON INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY ARGENTINE EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON AND APPARENTLY INTENDED PRIMARILY FOR CONSUMPTION HERE, DESPATCH DEPICTS WHAT IS GOING ON IN WASHINGTON IN TERMS OF ALLEGED CONFLICT BETWEEN TRADITIONALLY PRO- AND ANTI-ARGENTINE ELEMENTS IN STATE DEPARTMENT.

5. EVIDENTLY, FACTUAL SEGMENT OF DESPATCH ANNOUNCES THAT AMB AJA ESPIL WILL LAUNCH FULL SCALE CAMPAIGN IN US TO CLARIFY ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT'S BASIC POSITION ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN ATTEMPT TO PREVENT HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS FROM FURTHER DETERIORATING US-ARGENTINE RELATIONS. THE US DECISION NOT TO CUT FMS CREDITS ENTIRELY IS SEEN AS A DAMAGE-LIMITING ATTEMPT BY REALISTS IN USG WHO, AMONG OTHER REASONS, PURPORTEDLY UNDERSTOOD THAT A COMPLETE CUTOFF WOULD HAVE CONSTITUTED TYPE OF SANCTION PROHIBITED UNDER ART 19 OF OAS CHARTER, JUSTIFYING ARGENTINA'S CALL FOR MEETING OF CONSULTATION OF HEMISPHERIC FOREIGN MINISTERS.

6. DESPTACH CLOSES WITH CLAIM THAT ARGENTINE ATTITUDE TOWARD US HAS BEEN LESS AGGRESSIVE THAN THAT DISPLAYED BY BRAZIL OVER ISSUES OF COFFEE PRICES AND NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT.

7. TODAY (MAR 10) LA NACION REPORTED THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY UNDER-SECRETARY ALLARA WILL TRAVEL TO PARIS ON MARCH 11 TO COORDINATE EFFORTS BY ARGENTINA'S WEST EUROPEAN AMBASSADORS TO CLARIFY ARGENTINA'S HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION. ACCORDING TO WHAT LA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BUENOS 01896 112243Z

NACION TERMED WELL INFORMED SOURCES, ACTIVITIES OF ARGENTINE DIPLOMATS IN EUROPE WOULD BE SIMILAR TO THOSE AMB AJA ESPIL IS DEVELOPING IN WASHINGTON.

8. THERE HAS BEEN EXTENSIVE PRESS COVERAGE AND SOME COMMENTARY SUGGESTING A GROWING AFFINITY OF INTERESTS OF SOUTHERN CONE COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY BRAZIL AND ARGENTINA, COMMONLY FACED WITH SIMILAR PRESSURES FROM ABROAD. A REPORT THAT PINOCHET WOULD VISIT ARGENTINA APR 10, SUBSEQUENTLY DENIED, WAS ALSO INTERPRETED IN SAME LIGHT (ALTHOUGH PROPOSED VISIT RESPONDS TO MORE GENERAL ARGENTINE INITIATIVE TO BREAK OUT OF REGIONAL ISOLATION INHERITED FROM PREDECESSOR PERONIST REGIME). AN "OESTADO DE SAO PAULO" ARTICLE GIVEN PROMINENT PLAY HERE REPORTS AN OPTIONS PAPER ORDERED BY PRESIDENT GIESEL SOME 15 DAYS AGO WHICH ALLEGEDLY CONCLUDES THAT BRAZIL HAS SUFFICIENT INDUSTRIAL CAPACITY TO SUPPLY ITS OWN ARMAMENTS NEEDS (AND, BY EXTENSION, THOSE OF NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES AS WELL. RECENT REMARKS OF SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN BRASILIA ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS BEING AN INTERNAL PROBLEM FOR EACH COUNTRY TO RESOLVE ALSO DID NOT GO UNNNOTICED HERE. HOWEVER,

THERE HAS ALSO BEEN MORE RECENT COMMENTARY IN PRESS SUGGESTING THAT ARGENTINE NATIONAL INTERESTS DICTATE THAT EFFORT BE MADE TO CONTAIN DIFFERENCES WITH US AND RESIST ANY ATTEMPT TO ISOLATE ARGENTINA OR INVOLVE IT IN BLOC WITH CHILE, URUGUAY AND BRAZIL, AS OPPOSED TO PERU AND OTHER LATIN AMERICAN NATIONS.

9. COMMENT BY BUENOS AIRES PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR, GENERAL IBERICO SAINT JEAN (WHOSE NAME IS WIDELY MENTIONED IN LOCAL POLITICAL CIRCLES AS POSSIBLE ASPIRANT TO PRESIDENCY) TO THE EFFECT THAT US ACTION PERMITS ARGENTINA TO "REACT AS ARGENTINES KNOW HOW TO REACT WHEN OUR NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY HAS BEEN DAMAGED", HAS NOT RECEIVED ANY EDITORIAL SUPPORT IN PRESS, AT LEAST THUS FAR.
HILL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, POLITICAL SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BUENOS01896
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770085-1217
Format: TEL
From: BUENOS AIRES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770370/aaaacjsr.tel
Line Count: 129
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 70dd3dba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BUENOS AIRES 1852
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3142674
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FURTHER PRESS PLAY ON US-ARGENTINE RELATIONS
TAGS: SHUM, PINS, PFOR, AR, US, BR, CI, PE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/70dd3dba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009